



BOROUGH OF OLDBURY

REPORT

on the



Health of Oldbury

For the Year 1962



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Borough



of Oldbury

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1962.

Medical Officer of Health:

HENRY TABBUSH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

WILLIAM J. MASON, M.A.P.H.I.

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The Midland Printing Company, Limited, Pennericket Lane,
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BOROUGH OF OLDBURY

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COUNCILLOR W. CARTER, *Vice-Chairman.*

ALDERMAN A. GUNN, C.C.

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HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE, 31st DECEMBER, 1962.

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H. ROBERTS, Esq., M.D. (Liverpool), M.B., Ch.B.,
M.R.C.O.G., F.R.C.S.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health:

HENRY TABBUSH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

R. F. JOANES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (Commenced 17.9.62).

Assistant Medical Officer:

Divisional Dental Officer:

D. M. HOBBS, B.D.S.
ALMA M. FACER, L.D.S. (Part-time).

Ophthalmic Specialist (Part-time):

GUY F. G. SIGGINS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

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Deputy Chief—J. N. COPE, M.A.P.H.I. (a.b.)
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C. C. WILKES, M.A.P.H.I. (a.b.)
J. A. JEAVONS (a.b.)
R. A. MADDOCK (a.) (Resigned 4.5.62)
A. G. SABIN (a.) (Resigned 31.8.62)

Area Nursing Officer:

MISS M. R. CLARKE, (c.d.e.)

Health Visitor—School Nurses:

MISS H. STANSFIELD (c.d.e.) MISS B. M. LAMB (c.d.e.)
MRS. J. BUTLER (c.d.e.) MRS. J. MORETON (c.d.e.)
MISS A. V. T. SHANAHAN (c.d.e.) (Commenced 1.1.62)

Tuberculosis Visitor:

MRS. A. MURRAY (e.).

Municipal Midwives:

NURSE B. EWINGS (d.e.) NURSE M. CRITCHLEY (d.e.)
„ H. GALLAGHER (d.) „ U. A. AUSTIN (d.e.)
„ A. M. WILLIAMS (d.) „ P. COX (d.e.)
(Commenced 1.11.62)

District Nurses:

MRS. S. J. GALLAGHER (e.) MRS. E. M. CUTLER (e.j.)
 „ D. GRAHAM (e.j.) „ G. M. NOCK (d.e.)
 „ L. I. BAKER (g.) „ M. J. WORTON (d.e.)
MISS M. BASTERFIELD (g.) (Commenced 1.11.62)
MRS. M. O'BRIEN (e.j)

Mental Health Officers:

R. D. MANDERS. J. FALKINGHAM (Commenced 1.8.62)
G. EVANS (Resigned 31.3.62)

Welfare Officer:

H. TAYLOR.

Home Teacher for the Blind:

MRS. V. A. ASHE (Resigned 31.10.62)
MISS A. SWAN (Commenced 1.11.62)

Chiropodists:

D. A. HAYWARD, M.Ch.S. R. SHAW, M.Ch.S.

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(Shorthand-Typist)	MRS. J. A. TURNER
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(Resigned 21.9.62)	(Commenced 22.10.62)
J. CUTLER, Cleansing Depot, (Weighbridge Clerk)	

NOTES.

- (a) Holds the Public Health Inspectors' Certificate.
- (b) Holds the Meat and Foods Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Society of Health.
- (c) Holds the Health Visitors' Certificate approved by the Ministry of Health.
- (d) Holds the Midwives' Certificate granted by the Central Midwives Board.
- (e) State Registered Nurse.
- (f) Holds the Midwives Teachers' Diploma.
- (g) State Enrolled Assistant Nurse.
- (h)
- (i) Honours Certificate of the Institute of Hygiene.
- (j) Queen's Institute of District Nursing.
- (k) Holds the Smoke Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Society of Health.

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health.
For the Year 1962.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the
Borough of Oldbury.**

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health of the Borough for the year 1962.

Vital Statistics.

The birth-rate of 14.52 per 1,000 of the population is slightly lower than last year and considerably lower than the rate for England and Wales. The infant mortality rate showed a further reduction to 21.87 per 1,000 live births which closely approximates to the figure for the country as a whole but the still-birth rate, after a marked reduction last year, has returned to its previous level. The main hazards, which used to cause the deaths of children in infancy and early childhood, have been virtually eliminated. The loss of child life and health now is attributable to causes affecting the mother during pregnancy which lead to deformity, prematurity or still-birth. The emphasis should be on more thorough ante-natal supervision and further research into the factors affecting intra-uterine development. We already know that virus diseases in early pregnancy can produce abnormality in the baby and unfortunately we have learned that certain drugs taken during the same period can also produce deformities. Detailed investigation of all cases of abnormality, prematurity and still-birth might bring to light other unsuspected causes.

The death-rate from cancer shows a slight improvement over previous years, with cancer of the lung and bronchus still occupying the leading place. The risks of cigarette smoking are now widely known and the department has been actively engaged in publicising this knowledge for several years, but appreciation of the risk has not proved an effective deterrent. We have yet to devise more effective means of actively discouraging this pernicious addiction.

Greater than the total deaths from all forms of cancer and greater than the total of deaths from any other cause, disease of the coronary arteries of the heart was responsible for the greatest number of deaths during the year. Although research has suggested many factors as being implicated, such as occupation, diet and smoking, no satisfactory explanation has yet been found for the rapid increase in the incidence of this disease. Its prevention will have to await successful research into its causation and precipitating factors.

Infectious Diseases.

As a result of widespread immunisation the incidence of Whooping Cough has been reduced to insignificant proportions but the incidence of Measles continues to achieve epidemic proportions every second year. Progress is being made towards the production of a suitable vaccine but it is understood that those so far tested were not free from reactions and their widespread use is not recommended at present. It should not be very long however before protection against Measles will be available.

There was a sharp outbreak of Dysentery during the year, the majority of cases affected being junior school children.

With no death during the year and only 24 new cases notified, the prospects for the ultimate conquest of Pulmonary Tuberculosis are bright but the close alliance between treatment and prevention must not be allowed to be broken until the disease is finally eradicated.

Slum Clearance.

Although 342 new dwellings were completed during the year and the Housing Department were prepared to allocate two-thirds of these for slum clearance purposes, in the event only 136 dwellings were let to families displaced from unfit houses.

For several years now the programme for slum clearance has been delayed because not enough houses were being built. It is all the more disappointing, therefore, that the opportunity which presented itself was lost because not sufficient unfit houses were represented. The reason for this failure is given by the Chief Public Health Inspector as insufficient staff, two inspectors having resigned during the course of the year. Of all the environmental conditions with which the Health Department has to deal, housing in my opinion, merits the first priority and I would suggest that, in the circumstances, a temporary reallocation of duties of the inspectors should be made to ensure representation of enough unfit houses to take full advantage of the generous allocation made by the Council for the purposes of slum clearance.

Mental Health.

Much remains to be achieved before we can say with any confidence that we can provide community care for the mentally ill patient.

The severely subnormal may be divided into three categories according to their needs. The first category are those so severely

handicapped, often physically as well as mentally, that they require care in mental hospitals. They impose an almost intolerable strain on their families. Despite repeated efforts often extending over many years it has been found impossible to obtain their admission. Mental hospitals should urgently consider making room for these patients, if necessary by returning some of the less severely handicapped to the community. The next category, the junior severely subnormal, is reasonably well catered for by the provision of occupation centre facilities, transport and regular home visiting, but there is a shortage of occupation centre places. Thirdly the adult severely subnormal needs some useful occupation under supervision. Although they are capable of being trained to carry out simple industrial processes, attempts to obtain employment in open industry usually end in failure due to the thoughtlessness and intolerance of their workmates. If they are females they are usually kept at home to carry out domestic work and rarely leave the house. To meet their needs a sheltered workshop is required which could take on out-work from local industries. The severely subnormal would work under supervision at their own speed and no questions of profit or trade-union rates would arise.

This type of workshop could also be used for mentally ill patients discharged from hospital. For these patients to be cared for in the community it will also be necessary to provide a hostel and to organise a social club.

Staff.

I would like to acknowledge with gratitude the help and understanding I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and of the Health and Welfare Committee, and to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the staff of the Health Department, medical, nursing and clerical, for their loyal co-operation, and to my colleagues in other Departments, who have been helpful at all times.

I am.

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY TABBUSH,

Medical Officer of Health.

Health and Welfare Department,

Greenwood Avenue,

Langley, Oldbury.

July, 1963.

Tel. No.: BROadwell 2041/2.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name	Situation	Sessions	Accommodation
Oldbury I.W.	Wesley Street, Oldbury	Monday, 2 p.m.	Consulting, Infant Weighing and Wait- ing Rooms
Langley I.W.	" The Hollies," Langley	Wednesday and Friday, 2 p.m.	do.
Warley I.W.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Tuesday and Thursday, 2 p.m.	do
Oldbury A.N.	Wesley Street, Oldbury	Alternate Fridays, 2 p.m.	Consulting and Wait- ing Rooms
Langley A.N.	" The Hollies," Langley	Alternate Thurs., 2 p.m.	do.
School Clinic	Tabernacle Clinic, Oldbury	M.O. and Nurse Daily, 9—9-30 a.m.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms
School Clinic	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	M.O. and Nurse Daily, 9—9-30 a.m.	do.
School Clinic	" The Hollies," Langley	M.O. and Nurse Daily, 9—9-30 a.m.	do.
Dental Clinic, S.M.S.	Tabernacle Clinic, Oldbury	Mon., Tues. and Thursday 9—4-30 p.m. Friday, 9—12 noon.	do.
Dental Clinic, S.M.S.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Daily, 9—5 p.m.	do.
Scabies Clinic	Cleansing Station, Brookfields Rd., Langley	By appointment	Treatment and Wait- ing Rooms
Ophthalmic Clinic	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Friday, 9 a.m. Alternate Wed. 1-30 p.m.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms
Sunray Clinic	" The Hollies," Langley	Tuesday, 2 p.m.	Treatment and Wait- ing Rooms
Chest Clinic	Greenwood Av. Langley	Monday, 11—12-30 p.m. and 2—4 p.m. Friday, 11—12 noon	do.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	3,304
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate Mid-1962) ...	54,420
Population (Census 1961)	53,948
Number of inhabited dwellings (Census 1961) ...	16,354
Number of inhabited dwellings at 31.12.62	16,725
Rateable value (1st April, 1962)	£725,798
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,980
General Rate—1962-63	23s. 0d.

Unemployment—31st December, 1962:—

Wholly unemployed—

Men and Boys	305
Women and Girls	79

Temporary stoppage—

Men and Boys	136
Women and Girls	10

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

				M.	F.	Total
Live Births	{	Legitimate	... ..	394	381	775
		Illegitimate	... ..	30	18	48
			Totals	<hr/> 424	<hr/> 399	823

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the population 15.12

Area Comparability-Factor

(Births) 0.96	Standardised Birth-rate ...	14.52
Still-births 24	Rate per 1,000 total births	28.33
Deaths 523	Death-rate (Crude) ...	9.61
Area Comparability-Factor	Standardised Death-rate ...	13.64
(Deaths) 1.42		

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth was 1 Rate per 1,000 Births (Live and Still) 1.180

Death-rates of Infants under one year:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	(18)	21.87
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate live births	(17)	21.93
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births	(1)	20.83
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		89
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages)		Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...		Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...		Nil

3.—BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.

					Live Birth Rate	Death Rate
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	18.0	11.9
OLDBURY	...	...	...	...	14.52	13.64

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General estimates that 54,420 persons were resident in the Oldbury area at Mid-1962. The "natural increase of population," that is, excess of births over deaths, during the year was 300.

DEATHS.

In 1962, 276 deaths were registered in the Oldbury area. 9 of these deaths were persons not normally resident in the district, and 238 Oldbury residents died outside the district. The aggregate number of deaths for the year was 523, representing a crude death rate of 9.61 per thousand of the estimated population and a standardised death rate of 13.64 per thousand of the population. The corresponding figures for 1961 were 517 total deaths, a crude death rate of 9.53, and a standardised death rate of 13.54.

Of the 523 deaths, 18 were of infants under one year of age, representing an infantile mortality rate of 21.87 per thousand live births. In 1961 there were 19 deaths under one year of age and an infantile mortality rate of 23.09 per thousand live births.

The most frequent causes of deaths, the number of deaths so registered, and the corresponding death rates per thousand of the population were:—

Heart Disease	...	167	deaths equivalent to a death rate of 3.068
Cancer	...	89	" " " " 1.635
Vascular Lesions	...	70	" " " " 1.286
Bronchitis	...	42	" " " " 0.771
Pneumonia	...	35	" " " " 0.643
Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	1	" " " " 0.018

Heart Disease occupies first place as primary cause of death.

HEART DISEASE.

Of the 167 deaths recorded as due to heart disease, 116 relate to persons under the age of 65 and 8 were in respect of persons under 45 years of age.

CANCER.

For the purposes of comparison the following table gives a summary of deaths from Cancer, and the age distribution of those deaths during the past nineteen years.

Year	ESTIMATED POPULATION	NUMBER OF DEATHS			Rate per 1000 Pop.	AGE DISTRIBUTION				
		Males	Fe- males	Total		0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-45 Years	45-65 Years	65 years & over
1944	50,220	32	33	65	1.29	1	1	7	23	33
1945	50,040	42	27	69	1.37	..	..	6	29	33
1946	51,890	47	38	85	1.63	..	1	2	32	50
1947	52,510	62	40	102	1.94	..	..	10	34	58
1948	53,350	42	41	83	1.55	..	..	11	36	36
1949	53,380	45	48	93	1.74	..	..	5	43	45
1950	53,820	49	36	85	1.57	1	..	7	33	45
1951	53,740	39	36	75	1.39	1	..	5	36	33
1952	53,790	46	36	82	1.52	1	1	5	33	42
1953	53,820	36	29	65	1.20	..	..	6	29	30
1954	54,030	53	37	90	1.66	..	1	8	32	49
1955	54,550	41	47	88	1.61	1	1	12	32	42
1956	54,840	54	43	97	1.76	..	..	8	48	41
1957	54,770	51	41	92	1.67	..	..	12	41	39
1958	55,100	41	47	88	1.59	..	..	3	43	42
1959	55,310	60	47	107	1.93	1	1	4	44	57
1960	55,440	63	44	107	1.93	1	..	8	54	44
1961	54,220	58	35	93	1.71	2	..	4	45	42
1962	54,420	51	38	89	1.63	..	..	2	38	49

An analysis of the deaths from malignant disease shows that the site of the cancer causing death was as follows:—

		MALE			FEMALE		
		No.	Age Range	Average Age	No.	Age Range	Average Age
1. Intestinal Tract:							
a.	Oesophagus	...	1	62	62	1	48
b.	Stomach	...	6	56-68	61	5	66-83
c.	Ileum	...	—	—	—	1	73
d.	Caecum	...	—	—	—	1	73
e.	Colon	...	4	47-85	69	6	60-84
f.	Rectum	...	4	59-76	67	3	50-66
g.	Biliary Passages	...	—	—	—	2	70-77
h.	Liver	...	2	69-77	73	1	82
2. Female Generative Organs:							
a.	Ovary	...	—	—	—	4	55-79
b.	Uterus	...	—	—	—	1	71
c.	Vulva	...	—	—	—	1	94

		MALE			FEMALE		
		No.	Age Range	Average Age	No.	Age Range	Average Age
3.	Respiratory Tract:						
a.	Bronchus	... 12	49-69	60	—	—	—
b.	Lungs	... 8	51-72	63	1	40	40
4.	Urinary Tract:						
a.	Kidney	... —	—	—	1	73	73
b.	Bladder	... 2	61-74	67	—	—	—
5.	Glands:						
a.	Breast	... 1	84	84	7	49-78	64
b.	Pancreas	... 5	62-83	71	2	67-84	75
c.	Prostate	... 3	60-86	77	—	—	—
6.	Brain	... 1	78	78	—	—	—
7.	Bone	... 1	69	69	1	53	53
8.	Miscellaneous	... 1	39	39	—	—	—
Totals		... 51	39-86	63	38	40-94	68

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria.

Tables IVa and IVb summarising the work of Immunisation will be found at the end of the Report.

There were no cases of Diphtheria notified during the year.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

The following table summarises the doses administered during the year:—

Primary Immunisation during 1962

AGE GROUP		Number of persons who had received:	
		SALK Second Injection	ORAL Three doses
(a) Children born in 1962		—	23
(b) Children born in 1961		26	278
(c) Children and young persons born in years 1943-1960		17	112
(d) Young persons born in years 1933-1942		11	53
(e) Others		19	120
(f) Total		73	586
<i>Re-inforcing Doses</i>			
SALK INJECTIONS		ORAL DOSES AFTER	
Third	Fourth	2 Salk Injections	3 Salk Injections
1335	70	2146	633
<i>Number of record cards submitted by General practitioners during the year.</i>			
PRIMARY COURSES		Re-inforcing doses Salk or Oral	
Salk (1st & 2nd Injections)	Oral (3 Doses)		
261	259	2300	

Scarlet Fever.

21 cases were notified compared with 49 in 1961. The disease in the main was mild in character and of relatively little significance.

Pneumonia.

40 cases were notified and 35 deaths reported during the year.

Influenza.

There were 3 deaths in 1962 compared with 7 in 1961.

Erysipelas.

Two cases were notified during the year as compared with 1 during 1961.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

There were 99 cases of Measles and 29 cases of Whooping Cough notified during the year. No deaths were attributed to these diseases.

Whooping Cough Immunisation at 31st December, 1962

Year of Birth	Year of Immunisation															Totals
	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	
1962	159															159
1961	382	174														556
1960	33	367	221													611
1959	5	22	367	183												577
1958	1	19	44	372	86											522
1957	3	12	6	27	336	123										507
1956	—	13	11	18	29	325	64									460
1955	—	7	5	5	13	40	274	3								347
1954	—	3	5	26	10	17	23	201	30							315
1953	—	1	—	7	15	18	7	17	123	—						188
1952	—	1	1	1	7	24	11	7	17	64	6					139
1951	—	3	1	1	—	10	22	9	1	5	39	—				91
1950	—	1	4	3	3	5	—	17	4	—	4	19	—			60
1949	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	3	4	1	1	4	11	4		32
1948	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	3	4	—	—	1	40	2	53
Totals	583	614	667	644	499	562	403	258	182	74	50	23	12	44	2	4617

Meningococcal Infection.

No cases were notified and there were no deaths.

Tuberculosis.

The following tables have been supplied by the Chest Physician, Dr. R. B. Mayfield, who comments:—

LANGLEY CHEST CLINIC, 1962.**Clinic Attendances.**

Year	New cases other than Contacts	New Contacts	Total Attendances New and Old
Average 1957 to 1961	327	80	2826
1962	301	60	2509

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS IN OLDBURY.

Year	Notifications	Deaths
Average 1947 to 1951	61	20
Average 1952 to 1956	52	9
Average 1957 to 1961	31	3
1962	24	Nil

The first table shows that Clinic attendances are generally somewhat lower than the average for the previous five years, but these figures are very variable and the difference may be of no significance. The Langley Chest Clinic is, of course, still handicapped by the absence of X-ray facilities on the premises

The second table indicates the continued decline of tuberculosis. The greater drop in the number of deaths compared with notifications, is due to the fact that we now have effective treatment, and it is quite uncommon now for any person to die from uncomplicated pulmonary tuberculosis. Treatment has also contributed greatly to the decline in notifications, owing to the fact that the great majority of the patients are now rendered non-infectious before returning home from hospital. Other factors such as improved housing and nutrition and general health education, especially in the homes of tuberculous patients, have also played a major part. Diagnosis is more efficient and readily available than it ever was before, but still the main problem is the too slowly shrinking reservoir of infectious cases remaining in the community, mostly amongst elderly men. No doubt this problem would reach a natural solution as the years go by, but that solution could be reached much sooner if we were all to make full use of the facilities offered by Mass Radiography. Each year we approach more nearly to the ultimate elimination of tuberculosis, but it is likely to be some years before that goal is reached, and there is no justification for any easing of preventive measures yet.

The table below shows the number of notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the years 1946 to 1962.

Notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis — New Cases.

Year	Total	SEX		0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-35 Years	35-45 Years	45-55 Years	55 Years & over
1946	81	Male	54	2	19	13	5	10	5
		Female	27	4	11	6	3	2	1
1947	55	Male	32	5	7	3	9	3	5
		Female	23	4	10	2	5	..	2
1948	59	Male	35	4	15	4	6	2	4
		Female	24	6	7	3	3	2	3
1949	65	Male	44	6	7	5	8	7	11
		Female	21	1	6	6	7	1	..
1950	56	Male	38	1	9	11	6	7	4
		Female	18	4	4	6	4	..	..
1951	70	Male	44	5	8	10	3	12	6
		Female	26	6	11	2	2	2	3
1952	54	Male	28	3	3	5	6	9	2
		Female	26	2	6	6	6	3	3
1953	56	Male	30	4	3	5	4	11	3
		Female	26	4	11	4	6	1	..
1954	61	Male	37	3	12	9	4	3	6
		Female	24	4	12	6	..	2	..
1955	50	Male	31	3	4	6	5	3	10
		Female	19	5	6	6	..	..	2
1956	38	Male	22	1	5	6	6	2	2
		Female	16	3	5	2	4	1	1
1957	35	Male	23	3	6	3	2	2	7
		Female	12	2	6	4	..	..	..
1958	44	Male	28	1	5	3	2	5	12
		Female	16	7	2	4	2	1	..
1959	27	Male	16	1	2	1	1	2	9
		Female	11	..	1	4	3	2	1
1960	18	Male	12	1	2	..	3	..	6
		Female	6	..	2	1	..	..	3
1961	31	Male	13	2	3	1	2	1	4
		Female	18	4	2	1	6	2	3
1962	24	Male	14	1	1	4	3	2	3
		Female	10	2	2	1	1	3	7

Two cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified in 1962.

Cases on the register at the end of the year were as follows:—

	Male		Female	
Pulmonary	..	(277) 279	(210)	198
Non-Pulmonary	..	(26) 24	(17)	17

Figures for 1961 in brackets.

The following table shows the sex and age groups of the deaths from respiratory tuberculosis since 1945:—

Year	Total	Death Rate	SEX	0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-35 Years	35-45 Years	45-55 Years	55 years & over
1945	26	·52	Male 16 Female 10	.. ..	.. 3	4 3	2 2	3 2	7 ..
1946	38	·73	Male 23 Female 15	1 2	2 2	7 5	4 1	2 2	7 3
1947	27	·51	Male 20 Female 7	.. ..	4 1	4 3	5 3	2 ..	5 ..
1948	15	·28	Male 8 Female 7	.. ..	3 2	.. 2	1 3	4..	....
1949	28	·52	Male 16 Female 12	1 ..	2 5	1 1	6 2	3 1	3 3
1950	13	·24	Male 8 Female 5	1 ..	.. ..	.. 3	2 1	1 1	4 ..
1951	15	·27	Male 12 Female 3	.. ..	.. ..	3 2	.. ..	3 ..	6 1
1952	13	·24	Male 8 Female 5	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	3 2	2 ..	2 3
1953	11	·20	Male 6 Female 5	.. ..	.. 2	2 ..	.. 1	2 1	2 1
1954	12	·22	Male 10 Female 2	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	1 2	.. ..	8 ..
1955	6	·11	Male 5 Female 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	2 1	2 ..
1956	3	·05	Male 3 Female —	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	1 ..	.. ..	1 ..
1957	7	·12	Male 7 Female —	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	4 ..	3 ..
1958	4	·07	Male 2 Female 2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. 1	1 1
1959	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1960	2	·036	Male 1 Female 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..
1961	2	·036	Male 2 Female—	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..
1962	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TUBERCULOSIS CASES, 1962

Analysis of Additions and Deletions					TOTALS
R E S P I R A T O R Y	M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-62 ...			277
		Additions	Primary Notifications	14	
			Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	—	
			Restored to Register... ..	—	
			Inward Transfers	7	
		Deletions	Died	2	
			Recovered	8	
			Diagnosis not confirmed	1	
	Outward Transfers		8		
	No. on Register at 31-12-62 ...			279	
	F E M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-62 ...			210
		Additions	Primary Notifications	10	
			Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	1	
			Restored to Register... ..	—	
Inward Transfers			4		
Deletions		Died	5		
		Recovered	16		
		Diagnosis not confirmed	—		
	Outward Transfers	6			
No. on Register at 31-12-62 ...			198		
N O N R E S P I R A T O R Y	M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-62 ...			26
		Additions	Primary Notifications	1	
			Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	—	
			Restored to Register... ..	—	
			Inward Transfers	—	
		Deletions	Died	—	
			Recovered	2	
			Diagnosis not confirmed	—	
	Outward Transfers		1		
	No. on Register at 31-12-62 ...			24	
	F E M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-62 ...			17
		Additions	Primary Notifications	1	
			Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	—	
			Restored to Register... ..	—	
Inward Transfers			1		
Deletions		Died	—		
		Recovered	1		
		Diagnosis not confirmed	—		
	Outward Transfers	1			
No. on Register at 31-12-62 ...			17		

DEATHS—All the Deaths removed from Register may not have actually occurred during 1962

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 50.

On two occasions the Council had to bear the cost of burial during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948, and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

It was not necessary during the year to resort to Section 47 in order to remove, to suitable premises, a person in need of care and attention.

Mortuary.

During the year 61 bodies were removed to the Mortuary and in each instance a post-mortem was conducted.

Medical Examinations.

The staff of the department carried out 117 medical examinations for superannuation and employment purposes.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Housing.

Increased housing accommodation is still an urgent necessity in the Borough. Re-housing of tuberculous cases continues to merit top priority, but families living in overcrowded or insanitary accommodation are also given due consideration.

The Housing Manager informs me that he received 412 (287 sub-tenants, 125 tenants) new applications during the year, divisible into the following groups:—

257	with no children.
93	with one child.
35	with 2 children.
18	with 3 children.
5	with 4 children.
3	with 5 children.
1	with 6 children.

Total applications on Housing Register at 31.12.62:—

Sub-Tenants	...	...	...	...	1,195
Tenants	...	...	...	...	1,351

The Borough Surveyor has supplied the following figures:—

Number of dwellings completed by the Corporation	342
Number of dwellings completed by Smethwick Corporation	Nil
Number of dwellings completed by private contractors	36
Number of dwellings in course of erection at 31.12.62	766
Number of permanent dwellings erected since 8.5.1945	3,490

Water Supply.

312 houses in the area are supplied with water from mains by means of standpipes. The approximate population so served is 1,015. The remaining houses and population in the area receive water from mains direct to individual houses.

Specimen results from analysis by the County Analyst are as follows:—

				Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
Physical Characters						
Colour	...	...	...	Colourless	Colourless	Colourless
Odour	...	...	...	None	None	None
Deposit		...	...	None	None	None
pH.	...	...	...	7.4	7.0	7.6

Chemical Examination.

Solids in solution (Dried at 180°C.)	...	...	330	265	245
Solids in solution (After ignition)	...	...	260	160	165
Chlorine present as chloride			27	26	24
Hardness—non-carbonate			100	68	64
Hardness—carbonate	...		128	112	116
Hardness, total	...		228	180	180
Ammoniacal Nitrogen			0.01	Trace	0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen...			0.07	Trace	0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen	...		4.1	5.4	8.2
Nitrite Nitrogen	...		Nil	Trace	Nil
Permanganate Value	...		1.05	0.15	0.15
Toxic Metals	...	...	Nil	None detected	None detected
Total Residual Chlorine			Nil	Trace	0.02
Fluorine	...	...	—	—	—

Note—To convert the above parts per million to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.07.

Bacteriological Examination.

Probable number of coliform bacilli:—

In two days at 37°C.	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.
Bact. Coli Type 1 ...	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.

SERVICES DELEGATED BY THE WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Chief Statistics, 1962. Registrar-General's Figures.

Live Births	823
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	14.52
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births ...	5.83
Still-births	24
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births	28.33
Total live and still-births	847
Infant deaths	18
Infant Mortality Rates—	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ...	21.87
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.93
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	20.83
Neo-natal (under 4 weeks) mortality rate per 1,000 total live births	19.44
Early neo-natal (under 1 week) mortality rate per 1,000 total live births	17.01
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	44.86
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births ...	1.180

Births.

The total of 823 live births is divisible into 424 boys and 399 girls, giving a standardised live birth-rate of 14.52 per thousand estimated population.

Of the 823 live births, 48 were illegitimate (30 boys and 18 girls). Two illegitimate still-births were notified.

Still-births.

There were 24 still-births registered during 1962, giving a still-birth rate of 28.33 per thousand live and still births, or 0.44 still-births per thousand of the population, as compared with 1961, when the number of still-births was 10; the still-birth rate 11.41 per thousand live and still-births, or 0.18 still-births per thousand population.

Premature Births.

WEIGHT AT BIRTH	PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS												PREMATURE STILL-BIRTHS		
	Born in Hospital			Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home & transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in nursing home and nursed entirely there			Born in nursing home and trans- ferred to hospital on or before 28th day		
	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days
(A) 3 lb. 4 oz. or less	9	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
(B) Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz. . .	9	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
(C) Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz. . .	3	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(D) Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz. . .	25	—	25	8	—	8	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
TOTALS . .	46	6	38	9	—	9	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	17

Infant Mortality.

There were 18 deaths of infants under one year of age and 16 of these deaths occurred within the first four weeks of life. This is equivalent to an Infant mortality rate of 21.87 per thousand live births.

The corresponding figures for the previous ten years are:—

1951	...	19	deaths	or	24.51	per	1,000	live	births.
1952	...	18	..	or	24.09	..	..
1953	...	25	..	or	31.05	..	..
1954	...	22	..	or	29.53	..	..
1955	...	16	..	or	21.88	..	..
1956	...	15	..	or	18.67	..	..
1957	...	19	..	or	24.35	..	..
1958	...	22	..	or	29.37	..	..
1959	...	17	..	or	21.76	..	..
1960	...	18	..	or	21.92	..	..
1961	...	30	..	or	23.09	..	..

An analysis of the causes of death of infants will be found in the following table:—

Infant Mortality during the Year 1962
Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under
One Year of Age

CAUSE OF DEATH	DAYS				Total under 1 Week	WEEKS		Total under 1 month	MONTHS		Total under 1 Year
	0-1	1-2	3-4	5-6		1-2	3-4		2	7	
Prematurity	4				4			4			4
Atelectasis	2	1		1	4			4			4
Pneumonia	1				1			1	1	1	3
Microcephaly	1				1			1			1
Hydrops Foetalis	1				1			1			1
Hyaline Membrane Disease	1				1			1			1
Bilateral Adrenal Haemorrhage			1		1			1			1
Cerebral Haem.					—	1		1			1
Malignant Haemangioma of Liver					—		1	1			1
Congenital Heart				1	1			1			1
TOTALS	10	1	1	2	14	1	1	16	1	1	18

Perinatal Mortality Rate.

The following table gives the Oldbury and the England and Wales Rates for the past ten years:—

Year	Stillbirth Rate (Per 1,000 Total Births)		Neonatal Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Live Births)		Perinatal Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Total Births)	
	Oldbury	England and Wales	Oldbury	England and Wales	Oldbury	England and Wales
1962	28.33	18.1	19.44		44.86	
1961	11.41	19.1	19.63	15.5	26.25	32.2
1960	24.94	19.8	18.27	15.6	40.38	32.9
1959	29.81	21.0	12.80	15.8	42.23	34.2
1958	17.06	21.6	18.69	16.2	32.80	35.1
1957	28.64	22.5	16.66	16.5	43.58	36.2
1956	21.92	22.9	13.69	16.8	34.10	36.8
1955	22.72	23.2	16.41	17.3	36.09	37.6
1954	15.85	23.5	24.16	17.7	35.66	38.1
1953	27.77	22.5	16.14	17.7	39.85	37.0

Illegitimate Live Births.

The Illegitimate Live Birth Rate shows an increase on the figure for the previous year.

Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 Population	% of Total Live Births
1962	48	.88	5.83
1961	43	.79	4.96
1960	36	.64	4.38
1959	24	.43	3.07
1958	32	.58	4.27
1957	28	.51	3.58
1956	16	.29	1.99
1955	23	.42	3.14
1954	25	.46	3.35
1953	32	.59	3.97
1952	27	.50	3.61
1951	28	.52	3.54
1950	38	.70	4.51
1949	44	.824	5.26
1948	30	.562	3.26
1947	36	.685	3.43
1946	53	1.023	5.14
1945	54	1.079	5.21
1944	28	.557	2.52
1943	31	.618	2.73
1942	23	.469	2.24
1941	18	.364	2.08

Maternal Mortality.

There was one death during 1962.

Midwives Act, 1936.

An indication of the work undertaken by the Domiciliary Midwives during the year can be obtained from the following table:—

YEAR	CONFINEMENTS					Hospital Discharges before 14th day (1952-60) before 10th day 1961		Domiciliary cases wholly Breast Fed at 14th day (1961 - 10th day)	NATAL VISITS	
	DOCTOR BOOKED				Total					
	No		Yes							
	Present at Delivery		Present at Delivery							
	Yes	No	Yes	No		Cases	Visits		Ante	Post
1953	—	41	42	242	325	254	687	214	2328	22
1954	—	17	40	218	275	338	926	218	2124	26
1955	—	16	21	261	298	314	989	218	1482	2
1956	—	7	20	259	286	459	1313	212	1622	—
1957	1	6	20	249	273	552	1625	207	1990	—
1958	—	3	25	221	249	417	1955	177	1971	—
1959	—	2	21	220	243	419	2167	157	2045	—
1960	—	10	27	277	314	426	2263	214	2274	—
1961	1	5	27	251	284	380	1674	181	1745	1
1962	1	6	23	259	289	393	1320	183	2309	1

Gas and Air Analgesia.

This service was made available to all expectant mothers from May 1948. Out of 289 domiciliary cases, 230 or 79.5 per cent. availed themselves of the opportunity during the year, as compared with 73.2 per cent. in 1961.

Notifications received from Midwives.

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the Borough:—

Sending for medical aid	74
Liability to be a source of infection ...	1
Death of mother and/or child	—
Laying out of dead	—
Abortions and still-births	3

Puerperal Pyrexia.

One case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There was one case during the year.

MEDICAL AID.

Medical aid was summoned by Midwives on 74 occasions up to the end of the year and a summary of the requests received is set out in the next page. In all instances a Medical Practitioner

had arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service.

Mother —

Ruptured perineum	...	...	...	...	18
Episiotomy	...	...	...	...	1
Ante-partum haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	6
Post-partum haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	3
Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	2
Placenta praevia	...	...	...	...	1
Delayed first stage	...	...	...	...	3
Delayed second stage	...	...	...	...	3
Delayed third stage	...	...	...	...	1
Breech presentation	...	...	...	...	2
Retained placenta	...	...	...	...	1
Foetal distress	...	...	...	...	5
Premature labour	...	...	...	...	2
Mal-presentation	...	...	...	...	2
Toxaemia of pregnancy	...	...	...	...	5
Ruptured membranes	...	...	...	...	2
Oedema of legs and trunk	...	...	...	...	1
Stillbirth	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 59

Baby —

Discharging eye	...	...	...	...	3
Blood in eye	...	...	...	...	1
Discharging nose	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia	...	...	...	...	7
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	2
Vomiting and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 15

Accommodation for Maternity Cases.

The total number of births notified as having occurred in Hospitals, etc., outside the Borough was 558.

	Living	Still-born
Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich	325	13
Birmingham Maternity Hospital	16	—
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Selly Oak	16	1
Marston Green Maternity Hospital	3	—
St. Chad's Hospital	143	9
Sorrento Maternity Hospital	2	—
Selly Oak Hospital	1	—
Dudley Road Hospital	9	1
R.A.F. Hospital, Cosford	1	—
Wordsley Hospital	1	—
New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton	2	—
Lyncroft House Maternity Home	2	—
Mary Stevens' Maternity Home	4	—
Lordswood Maternity Home	6	—
Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home	3	—
Totals	<hr/> 534	<hr/> 24

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The attendances at the respective clinics were as follows:—

	OLDBURY		LANGLEY		WARLEY		TOTALS	
	1962	1961	1962	1961	1962	1961	1962	1961
Number of Sessions	25	24	25	24	2	24	52	72
New Ante-Natal Cases	26	25	26	30	—	9	52	64
Total attendances	132	135	136	169	—	36	268	340
Average per Session	5.2	5.6	5.4	7.0	—	1.5	5.3	4.7
Blood Test only ..	68	43	154	64	8	62	230	169
Hospital booking only	129	114	142	156	—	43	271	313

The number of 52 new cases is 6.1 per cent. of the total registered births for the district.

Routine blood samples for the investigation of the Rhesus Factor, Wasserman Reaction and Haemoglobin estimation are now taken at the Ante-Natal Clinics, and the results so far obtained undoubtedly justify the continuance of this procedure. This service is available to the patients of General Practitioners on request.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

The three clinics at Langley, Oldbury and Warley continued to serve the Borough throughout the year. Two sessions per week were held at Langley and Warley, and one session per week at Oldbury.

602 babies under the age of 1 year attended the Clinics for the first time. This represented 73.1 per cent. of the registered live births. 38 children between 1 and 2 years and 41 children between the age of 2 and 5 years attended the Clinics for the first time during the year.

The following table gives particulars of attendances at the

	OLDBURY		LANGLEY		WARLEY		TOTALS	
	1962	1961	1962	1961	1962	1961	1962	1961
New Cases:—								
0-1 year	145	135	268	276	189	213	602	624
1-2 years	13	1	6	16	19	15	38	32
2-5 years	9	2	6	13	26	19	41	34
Total ..	167	138	280	305	234	247	681	690
Seen by Doctor:—								
0-1 year	674	596	1,425	1,382	1,025	979	3,124	2,957
1-2 years	86	56	118	122	116	94	320	272
2-5 years	62	23	115	75	111	105	288	203
Total ..	822	675	1,758	1,579	1,252	1,178	3,732	3,432
Attendances:—								
0-1 year	1,973	1,980	4,852	4,778	2,865	3,249	9,690	10,008
1-2 years	582	491	1,057	974	722	658	2,361	2,123
2-5 years	319	303	618	606	791	808	1,728	1,717
Total ..	2,874	2,774	6,527	6,359	4,378	4,715	13,779	13,848
Number of Sessions ..	50	48	103	104	100	100	253	252
Average Attendance ..	57	57	63	61	43	47	54	55
Children attending in 1962 (1961)								
Who were born in:—1962 (1961)	123 (117)		215 (260)		157 (177)		495 (554)	
Who were born in:—1961 (1960)	103 (108)		271 (246)		169 (159)		543 (513)	
Who were born in:—1960-57 (1959-56)	98 (80)		223 (203)		194 (207)		525 (490)	
Total Children attending in 1962 (1961)	324 (305)		719 (709)		520 (543)		1,563 (1,557)	

Mothercraft Classes.

A Mothercraft Class is held every fortnight at the Welfare Centre, Bleakhouse Road, Warley.

Relaxation Class.

A Relaxation Class for expectant mothers is held on alternate Wednesdays at the Welfare Centre, Bleakhouse Road, Warley.

Post-Natal Clinics

Attendances are, on the whole, disappointing, but this is now largely due to the obligation of Doctors under the National Health Service Act, 1946, to carry out routine post-natal examinations on their Maternity cases.

Work of the Health Visitors.

During the year 11,484 visits were made to homes in the district and 696 sessions were taken up by attendance at Ante-Natal and Infant Welfare Centres.

The work undertaken by the Health Visitors can be summarised as follows:—

				First visits	Total visits
Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	151	207
Children under 1 year of age	...	...	...	765	3,413
Children age 1 and under 2 years	...	...	...	—	1,930
Children age 2 and under 5 years	...	...	...	—	4,200
Old People	...	...	...	—	113
Other cases	...	...	...	—	487
Ineffective visits	...	...	...	—	1,134
Total				...	11,484

Number of children under 5 years visited during 1962 ... 3,469

Number of families or households visited during 1962 ... 2,617

Voluntary Committees.

A Voluntary Committee operates at each Infant Welfare Clinic and their efforts in maintaining the happy relationship at our clinics and successfully arranging social functions in the form of outings, sales of work and competitions are very much appreciated.

Sale of Dried Milk and Other Foods.

During the year dried milk and other foods to the value of £2,322 5s. 10d. were sold at the Welfare Clinics.

Distribution of Welfare Foods.

The distribution of welfare foods continued during the year from the Infant Welfare Clinics and also from the Central Depot established at the Offices, Greenwood Avenue, Langley, Oldbury.

During the year the following items were distributed:—

National Dried Milk—Full Cream	...	5,083 tins.
Half Cream	...	127 tins.
Cod Liver Oil	... ..	839 bottles.
Vitamin A and D Tablets	... ..	689 packets
Orange Juice	... ..	7,629 bottles.

Ophthalmic Treatment.

Those children attending the Welfare Clinics noted to be suffering from defective vision or other eye conditions are sent to Mr. Guy F. G. Siggins, the Ophthalmic Specialist, at the School Clinic.

During 1962 20 new cases attended and the following conditions were found to have been present:—

Simple hypermetropia	... ..	1
Strabismus	... ..	13
Blocked tear duct	... ..	1
No defect found	... ..	5

Dental Treatment—

Pre-School Children and Expectant and Nursing Mothers.

		Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Children under five years
New Patients: Examined	... ..	26	87
Requiring treatment	... ..	26	76
Patients Treated: First visits	... ..	23	73
Subsequent visits	... ..	64	31
Made dentally fit	... ..	22	82
Scale and gum treatment	... ..	10	—
Fillings	... ..	31	79
Silver Nitrate treatment	... ..	—	7
Crowns or inlays	... ..	—	—
Extractions	... ..	91	134
Other operations	... ..	1	2
General anaesthetics	... ..	—	37
Impression	... ..	20	—
Bite	... ..	10	—
Try-in	... ..	18	—
Denture provided: Full	... ..	8	—
Partial	... ..	10	—
Radiographs	... ..	3	—

Family Planning.

The Oldbury and District Family Planning Association continued their sessions at the Warley Clinic, Bleakhouse Road, Warley, each Wednesday from 6.30—7.30 p.m. There were 972 attendances at 48 sessions.

130 new patients attended during the year, the source of reference is set out in the following table:—

Source	
Health Visitors and Midwives	... .. 20
Local Doctors	... .. 36
Other Patients already attending	... .. 58
Press. Radio. T.V.	... .. 1
Transferred from other clinics	... .. 13
Hospital	... .. 1
F.P.A.	... .. 1

Home Nursing.

At the end of the year the nursing staff was 7. The following table summarises the work carried out during the year:—

	<i>Cases Attended</i>	<i>Visits Paid</i>
MEDICAL	438	18,393
SURGICAL	79	3,308
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS	4	151
MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS ..	4	19
OTHERS	10	98
TOTAL	535	21,969
AGE OF PATIENT AT FIRST VISIT = OVER 65	296	14,437
UNDER 5	33	227
PATIENTS WHO HAD MORE THAN 24 VISITS IN YEAR	159	16,311

Home Helps.

This service is organised by the local branch of the Women's Voluntary Service and during the year domestic help was provided in 1 tubercular case, 17 maternity cases, 98 chronic sick cases and 38 other cases. There were 26 part-time (equivalent to 14 whole-time) and 1 whole-time Home Helps employed at the end of the year.

Vaccination.

The following table gives details of the number of primary vaccinations carried out during the past ten years:—

Year	Under 1 year	AGE GROUP 1-4 years	5-14 years	15 years & over	Clinic	General Practitioner	Total
1953	245	16	14	9	138	146	284
1954	239	12	7	9	115	152	267
1955	217	17	10	6	126	124	250
1956	208	13	1	6	107	121	228
1957	289	25	15	13	128	214	342
1958	318	27	9	14	149	219	368
1959	353	32	12	25	220	202	422
1960	479	46	15	17	302	255	557
1961	462	35	34	9	272	268	540
1962	531	364	1,438	1,932	423	3,842	4,265

Diphtheria Immunisation.

In all, 680 children were immunised in 1962, 594 under 5 years of age and 86 between 5 and 15 years of age, and in addition 1,115 reinforcing injections were given, mainly to children aged 5 years.

Details of the state of Immunisation at the 31st December, 1962, are shown in Tables IVa and IVb.

Chiropody Service.

During the year 76 sessions were held in the Clinics at Warley, Langley and Oldbury, at which 147 pensioners made 486 attendances. 58 of those in attendance at end of year had completed a course of six treatments and had embarked on a further course. 72 persons who were in receipt of a supplement to their pension received free treatment on 233 occasions. Arrangements were also made for 47 persons to be treated on 289 occasions by a Chiropodist at his own surgery.

Borough Ambulance Service (Not Delegated).

During the year 10,006 ordinary cases, 491 accident cases, 7,915 children to occupational centre, and 328 maternity cases were transported. The total mileage covered was 67,058.

The vehicles include 1 Morris (16 h.p.) Sitting Case Ambulance, 1 Morris Ambulance (27 h.p.) and 3 Morris (16 h.p.) Ambulances.

The accident cases can be divided into:—

- 239 Road Accidents.
- 123 Works Accidents.
- 92 Home Accidents.
- 27 School Accidents.

Personnel at the Ambulance Station are on duty from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on call on rota from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. The number of cases transported between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. throughout the year was 18,064 and 676 between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m.

CARE OF THE HANDICAPPED.

The Blind.

The number of blind persons on the register at 31st December, 1962, is shown in the following table:—

	YEARS										Total
	0-10.	11-15.	16-20.	21-39.	40-59.	60-64.	65-69.	70-79.	80-84.	85+	
Male	—	—	3	4	13	1	1	1	2	4	29
Female	—	1	1	1	8	6	4	11	5	5	42

During the year 2 men and 2 women were certified as blind.

Employment.

The workshops for the blind which serve the Borough are situated in Birmingham. At the end of the year the following were in employment:—

<i>Workshop Employment</i>		
Male	Female	
1	—	Carpenter and joiner
—	1	Machine knitter.
5	—	Brushmakers.
2	—	Boot and shoe repairers.
1	—	Piano tuner.

Open Industry or Self-Employed

Male	
1	Masscur.
1	Clerical worker.
2	Machine tool operators.

Home Worker

1	Basket-maker.
---	---------------

Holidays.

Grants were made to 10 persons from voluntary funds by the Oldbury Branch of the Worcestershire Association for the Blind.

Partially-sighted.

During the year 1 male person was added to the register and at the 31st December the age distribution was as follows:—

		YEARS					Total
		0-4.	5-15.	16-20.	21-64.	65 and over	
Male	—	2	4	1	2	9
Female	—	1	—	—	2	3

General Welfare.

Wireless sets from the Wireless for the Blind Fund have been supplied where necessary.

Subscriptions for the National Library for the Blind were paid in respect of six readers and to the Moon Society for three readers.

11 talking books, 7 disc and 4 tape, from the Nuffield Library are in the possession of blind persons in the Borough.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

At the 31st December, 1962, the number of persons known to the Department to be physically handicapped was 137 (75 males and 62 females).

The following table indicates the disability, sex and age group:—

		Children under 16 years	Persons aged 16-64 years	Persons aged 65 and over	Total
Deaf—	Male	... 1	7	2	10
	Female	... 1	6	1	8
Hard of Hearing—	Male	... 2	4	1	7
	Female	... 3	5	—	8
General Classes—	Male	... 5	36	17	58
	Female	... 6	30	10	46
Total		... 18	88	31	137

CARE OF THE AGED.

Residential Accommodation.

Accommodation under Part III of the National Assistance Act is provided by the Worcestershire County Council. During the year the following admissions were made:—

	Male	Female
The Herriotts, Droitwich	1	1
The Howsells, Malvern Link	—	1
Malvernbury, Malvern	—	4
Swinford Old Hall, Stourbridge	—	1
Laburnum House, Upton-on-Severn	1	3
Heathlands, Pershore	1	—
Shenstone	3	6
Total ...	6	16

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

During the year 213 psychiatric cases were referred to the department and 133 of these were admitted to hospital.

Admissions to Hospital.

	Male	Female	Total
Compulsory—Section 29 Mental Health Act ...	4	10	14
Section 25 Mental Health Act ...	1	3	4
Section 26 Mental Health Act ...	4	2	6
Informal	48	61	109
Total ...	57	76	133

Patients under care of L.H.A. at 31st December, 1962.

	Under 16		16 and over		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
(a) Attending day training centre ...	12	15	5	3	35
Awaiting entry thereto ...	3	5	2	—	10
(b) Receiving home training ...	—	—	2	—	2
Awaiting home training ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Receiving home visits	2	20	63	61	146
(d) Number of patients involved at					
(a) to (c)	15	20	69	63	167
Patients on waiting list for admission					
to hospital at 31st Dec., 1962 —					
not urgent	2	1	2	—	5
Admission to N.H.S. hospitals for					
temporary residential care ...	—	—	—	1	1

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TABLE I.—*Corrected Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during 1902*

Notifiable Disease	Cases Notified in Whole District											Total Cases Notified in each Ward										
	At Ages—Years											Central	Broadwell	Brandhall	Rounds Green	Langley	Warley	Bristnall	Total	Total cases re-moved to Hospital		
	Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards									
Measles ..	2	10	8	12	5	31	20	8	2	1	—	—	—	2	11	46	15	12	9	4	99	—
Whooping Cough ..	3	5	7	4	3	4	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	13	5	5	1	1	29	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	2	1	2	—	11	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	4	1	2	5	21	—
Pneumonia ..	4	4	1	1	—	3	—	1	1	1	3	15	6	6	6	6	10	6	2	4	40	6
Dysentery ..	1	8	3	3	4	127	16	2	1	2	9	3	—	1	9	8	59	20	19	65	181	1
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Ophthalmia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
TOTALS ..	11	29	20	22	12	177	44	13	7	6	12	19	6	13	30	80	93	44	38	80	378	7

TABLE II. CAUSES OF DEATH, 1962

Cause of Death	Detailed List No.—	All ages			AGE GROUPS															WARDS					
		TOTAL	M	F	0—4 months	4—12 months	1—5 years	5—10 years	10—15 years	15—20 years	20—25 years	25—35 years	35—45 years	45—55 years	55—65 years	65—75 years	75—85 years	85 and over	Central	Broadwell	Brandhall	Rounds Green	Langley	Warley	Bristnall
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	001—008	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. " other	010—019	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
3. Syphilitic disease	020—029	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
4. Diphtheria	055	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping cough	056	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Meningococcal infections	057	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Acute poliomyelitis	080	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Measles	085	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases ..	Rest of 001—138	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	151	11	6	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	2	...	1	...	2	3	...	2	3
11. " " lung, bronchus	162, 163	21	20	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	9	7	...	...	3	2	5	1	1	3	6
12. " " breast	170	8	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	2	...	1	...	1	...	2	2	2
13. " " uterus	171—174	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	Rest of 140-203, 205	48	24	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	12	15	13	3	6	6	10	9	6	6	5
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	204	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...
16. Diabetes	260	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	330—334	70	23	47	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	16	21	20	6	10	8	11	9	8	9	15
18. Coronary disease, angina	420	92	56	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	9	20	33	24	5	9	9	15	6	19	13	21
19. Hypertension with heart disease	440—443	9	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	5	1	3	2	...	...	1	3	...
20. Other heart disease	Rest of 410—443	66	29	37	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	3	3	10	11	23	12	9	10	14	3	12	6	12
21. " circulatory disease	444—468	12	5	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	2	1	...	...	5	...	...	4	3
22. Influenza	480—483	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...
23. Pneumonia	490—493	35	18	17	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	9	8	9	5	2	4	3	7	5	9
24. Bronchitis	500—502	42	35	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	10	14	10	4	5	5	9	3	10	6	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	470—475, 510—527	8	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	1	...	...	1	3	3	...	...	1
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	540—541	5	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	543, 571, 572, 764	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	590—594	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	610	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	640—689	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
31. Congenital malformations	750—759	2	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	Rest of 001—795	46	26	20	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	8	9	11	1	2	2	7	11	3	9	8	6
33. Motor vehicle accidents	E810—835	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
34. All other accidents	E800—802, E840—963	12	6	6	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	5	...	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	...	1
35. Suicide	E963, 970—979	9	6	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	2	1	...	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	E964, 965, 980—999	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ..		523	277	246	17	1	—	2	—	2	3	5	16	40	122	147	124	44	59	57	105	47	86	72	97

TABLE III.

Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality—1962

Area	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths (Ex. Still-births)	Deaths of Infants under One Year	DEATHS FROM							
					Malignant Neoplasm Lung Bronchus	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis (All Forms)	Influenza	Acute Poliomyelitis	Pneumonia	Coronary and Arteriosclerotic Heart Disease
ENGLAND AND WALES	18.0	18.1	11.9	21.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
OLDBURY ..	14.52	21.33	13.64	21.87	0.38	—	—	0.018	0.05	—	0.77	1.68

LIVE BIRTH and DEATH RATES per 1,000 population
 STILL BIRTH RATES per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births
 INFANT MORTALITY RATES per 1,000 related live births

TABLE IVa.
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION
at 31st DECEMBER, 1962

AGE on 31 - 12 - 62 (Born in year).	Under 1 (1962)	1 - 4 (1961 - 58)	5 - 9 (1957 - 53)	10 - 14 (1952 - 48)	Total under 15 years.
A. No. of children who have completed course (Primary or boosting) in period 1958 - 62	160	2355	2904	1280	6699
B. No. of children who have completed course (Primary or booster) in period 1957 or earlier.	—	—	885	2854	3739
C. Estimated Mid-year child population.	792	3155	7472		11419
Immunity Index:—					
1962	20.20	74.64	55.99		58.66
1961	20.30	73.58	53.47		56.23
1960	21.52	70.42	57.55		58.28
1959	15.13	65.67	64.33		61.61
1958	8.60	62.50	71.61		65.79
1957	11.22	61.75	73.16		66.80
1956	3.60	62.88	67.27		62.51
1955	5.02	67.60	68.19		64.26
1954	4.03	68.63	59.21		58.34

TABLE IVb—DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION at 31st December, 1962

COLUMN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
YEAR OF BIRTH	YEAR OF IMMUNISATION (PRIMARY OR BOOST)															Total Immunised at age in end Col.	Age at Date of Immunisation (Years)
	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948		
1962	160 274	268 352	211 313	165 293	140 218	39 191	23 71	18 73	14 86	12 49	15 79	17 60	3 48	14 41	12	3,259	0-1
1961	34 15	38 19	66 37	56 10	19 9	38 21	20 27	34 15	140 8	8 9	34 2	63 26	24 8	28		808	1-2
1960	6 4	7 16	9 5	1 11	4 12	11 6	2 4	8 4	— 4	9 9	8 3	8 1	3			155	2-3
1959	3 4	7 7	3 6	4 8	8 9	9 7	3 4	6 —	2 12	4 28	4 4	2				144	3-4
1958	18 168	12 24	9 156	11 148	12 128	13 84	2 95	10 106	17 54	16 15	3					1,101	4-5
1957	314 44	310 64	302 53	282 68	363 50	137 1	103 94	336 126	344 66	35						3,092	5-6
1956	11 5	3 13	8 7	9 7	17 2	7 15	24 9	11 10	10							168	6-7
1955	4 5	5 5	3 2	2 1	3 8	7 3	7 4	2								61	7-8
1954	7 3	6 5	2 11	3 5	5 9	6 14	6									82	8-9
1953	8 8	1 9	3 10	1 1	54 181	412										688	9-10
1952	399 196	231 9	10 2	— 2	3											852	10-11
1951	5 2	2 5	5 —	—												19	11-12
1950	— —	2 3	1													6	12-13
1949	—	3														3	13-14
1948	—															—	14-15
TOTALS	1,697	1,426	1,234	1,088	1,254	1,021	498	759	757	194	152	177	86	83	12	10,438	
PRIMARY	680	766	753	692	720	749	510	723	817	824	717	706	568*	1,021	754	Immunisations in the Borough	
BOOSTER	1,115	791	502	514	829	1,298	1,247	1,225	1,387	1,726	667	555	403*	373	217		

*Immunisation suspended from July to September.

TABLE V.—VITAL STATISTICS SINCE 1891

YEARS	POPULATION (R G's Mid. Year Est.)	RATES PER 1,000 EST. POPULATION						Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)		RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS		
		LIVE BIRTH *		DEATH *		PHTHISIS DEATHS				Maternal Mortal- ity	STILL BIRTH	
		Oldbury	E. & W.	Oldbury	E. & W.	No.	Rate	Oldbury	E. & W.		Old- bury	Old- bury	E. & W.
91—1895	21,331	40·82	30·5	21·33	18·7	89	·8344	201·8	151			
96—1900	25,375	37·82	29·3	16·80	17·7	94	·7411	216·5	156			
01—1905	25,798	36·28	28·2	17·45	16·0	77	·5969	175·0	138			
06—1910	28,580	35·75	26·3	17·04	14·7	118	·8257	147·1	117			
11—1915	33,856	30·12	23·6	15·47	14·3	115	·6793	137·6	110			
16—1920	38,277	23·47	20·1	12·77	14·4	162	·8464	104·1	90			
21—1925	39,370	23·74	19·9	10·90	12·2	147	·7469	77·2	75	4·49		
6	42,080	20·4	17·8	9·7	11·6	27	·6415	55·8	70	1·16		
7	43,120	19·4	16·7	11·2	12·3	22	·5102	88·4	69	2·38		
8	33,760	21·7	16·7	11·1	11·7	29	·8589	67·8	65	3·64		
9	34,190	21·7	16·3	12·6	13·4	19	·5557	99·7	74	4·04		
1930	35,000	21·5	16·3	10·8	11·4	36	1·0285	43·9	60	7·80		
1	36,370	20·8	15·8	11·1	12·3	21	·5773	68·6	66	3·86		
2	37,660	19·4	15·3	10·1	12·0	21	·5576	91·5	65	7·87		
3	39,560	17·4	14·4	10·5	12·3	23	·5813	89·7	64	2·83		
4	40,720	19·2	14·8	10·4	11·8	29	·7121	64·0	59	2·43		
5	41,900	18·9	14·7	9·7	11·7	31	·7398	65·6	57	2·40		
6	42,990	19·6	14·8	10·28	12·1	35	·8141	55·6	59	—		
7	44,450	18·94	14·9	11·09	12·4	25	·5624	65·32	58	2·24		
8	45,450	19·88	15·1	10·42	11·6	30	·6600	56·41	53	3·19		
9	47,000	18·51	15·0	9·96	12·1	28	·5956	64·59	50	3·31		
1940	48,700	18·74	14·6	11·17	14·3	39	·8008	49·34	55	4·20	38·94	36·1
1	49,390	16·94	14·2	9·98	12·9	30	·6074	70·47	59	1·15	33·48	34·4
2	49,530	19·97	15·8	9·63	11·6	34	·6864	46·51	49	2·92	37·00	33·0
3	50,100	21·89	16·5	9·84	12·1	42	·8382	41·02	49	1·84	35·18	30·2
4	50,220	21·42	17·6	8·86	11·6	26	·5176	37·18	46	2·70	29·75	27·7
5	50,040	20·22	16·1	9·03	11·4	26	·5194	33·59	46	1·93	23·16	27·6
6	51,890	19·32	19·1	9·55	11·5	38	·7322	35·89	43	—	26·21	27·2
7	52,510	19·97	20·5	9·54	12·0	27	·5141	36·22	41	2·78	26·90	24·1
8	53,350	17·22	17·9	8·90	10·8	15	·2811	41·34	34	2·14	13·94	23·2
9	53,380	16·46	16·7	13·12	11·7	28	·5245	34·12	32	2·23	18·97	22·7
1950	53,820	14·86	15·8	12·65	11·6	13	·2415	30·30	29·6	1·18	20·19	22·7
1	53,740	13·84	15·5	12·36	12·5	15	·2791	24·51	29·7	1·26	17·74	23·0
2	53,790	13·32	15·3	11·96	11·3	13	·2416	24·09	27·6	—	19·68	22·7
3	53,820	14·35	15·5	10·45	11·4	11	·2043	31·05	26·8	1·20	27·77	22·5
4	54,030	13·23	15·2	11·75	11·3	12	·2220	29·53	25·4	1·32	15·85	23·5
5	54,550	12·86	15·0	12·43	11·7	6	·1099	21·88	24·9	1·33	22·72	23·2
6	54,840	14·05	15·6	12·53	11·7	3	·0547	18·67	23·7	—	21·92	22·9
7	54,770	13·67	16·1	12·75	11·5	7	·1278	24·35	23·1	1·24	28·64	22·5
8	55,100	13·04	16·4	13·24	11·7	4	·0725	29·37	22·6	—	17·06	21·6
9	55,310	13·55	16·5	13·91	11·6	—	—	21·76	22·2	—	29·81	21·0
1960	55,440	14·22	17·1	13·39	11·5	2	·0360	21·92	21·9	—	24·94	19·8
1	54,220	15·33	17·4	13·54	12·0	2	·0368	23·09	21·6	—	11·41	19·1
2	54,420	14·52	18·0	13·64	11·9	—	—	21·87	21·4	1·18	28·33	18·1

* These rates are standardised as follows:—

Live Births from 1950
Deaths from 1949

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the

Year Ended 31st December, 1962.

W. J. MASON, M.A.P.H.I.,

Chief Public Health Inspector

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Oldbury.

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Ninth Annual Report of the work carried out by the staff of my Department during the year 1962.

INSPECTIONS.

During 1962 there was a decrease in the number of visits due to a shortage of inspectors in the Department. It is noticeable, however, that the number of re-visits increased because of the extra work occasioned by an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery and also in the supervision of the Council's smoke control areas. This work required the inspectors to carry out many visits after normal duty hours.

Summary of Inspections and Re-visits.

					Inspections	Revisits
Housing Act:						
Closing and Demolition	...	...	...	...	296	233
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	122	461
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	74	32
Houses in Multi-Occupation	...	...	...	...	122	8
Housing Survey	...	...	...	...	230	—
Public Health Act:						
Repairs	...	...	...	...	387	531
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	477	1,594
Water Closets and Drains	...	...	...	...	427	226
Drainage Tests	...	...	...	...	35	1
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	10	—
Water Courses and Canals	...	...	...	...	24	10
Dirty/Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	64	24
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	1	—
Keeping of Animals/Poultry	...	...	...	...	20	6

						Inspections	Revisits
Food and Drugs Act, etc.:							
Meat and Other Foods Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	223	8
Slaughterhouses (excluding above)	...	...	...	...	...	34	—
Bakeries	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	28	17
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	9	1
Retail Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	156	27
Markets	...	...	...	...	...	10	—
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	81	—
Food and Drugs Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	194	4
Water Sampling and Supply	...	...	...	...	...	51	—
Food Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	8	—
Food Adulteration	...	...	...	...	...	7	2
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	5	—
Factories Act:							
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	36	3
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	12	5
Clean Air Act, etc.:							
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	66	—
Air Pollution (excluding above)	...	...	...	...	...	172	21
Smoke Control Areas	...	...	...	...	...	846	1,600
Other Acts, Byelaws, etc.:							
Mines and Quarries	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	...	...	21	1
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	478	559
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
Pet Shops	...	...	...	...	...	33	1
Noise	...	...	...	...	...	37	56
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	51	25
Refuse Removal and Disposal (including dustbins)	...	...	...	...	...	158	6
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	37	—
Depot Maintenance	...	...	...	...	...	32	22
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	761	10
Number of Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	303	—
						6,152	5,499

Summary of Notices Served during the year 1962.

				Preliminary	Statutory
Public Health Act, 1936:					
Nuisance Properties	...	...	...	110	12
Defective Water Closets (Section 45)	...	...	...	14	2
Proposed Works of Maintenance on Sewers (Section 24)	...	...	...	—	12
Defective Drains (Section 39)	...	...	...	45	41
Public Health Act, 1961:					
Stopped-up Drains (Section 17)	...	...	...	—	1
Defective Premises (Section 26)	...	...	...	—	8
O.U.D.C. Act, 1929:					
Defective Drains	...	...	...	—	8
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960	...	...	...	7	—
				<hr/> 176	<hr/> 84

HOUSING.

Figures reported by the Housing Manager for 1962 show that, at the end of the year, there were 2,546 persons on the register of applications for municipal dwellings, a decrease of 499 on the corresponding figure for 1961. This reduction was due not only to the number of applicants re-housed but also to a review of the waiting list carried out during the year.

During the year 342 new dwellings became available for letting and 151 of the Council's tenanted dwellings became available for re-letting. 136 dwellings were allocated to slum clearance families which is approximately 40 per cent. of the new dwellings erected. This percentage of course falls below the agreed figure of 66 per cent. of new house lettings already agreed by the Council, due to shortages of staff and the additional work involved in smoke control areas. This latter subject is indeed very time-consuming and extra time given to this inevitably affects other branches of the Department's work.

Lettings.

Date Order	...	...	...	...	...	180
Slum Clearance	...	...	...	...	...	136
Transfers	...	...	...	...	...	74
Special Cases	...	...	...	...	...	48
Left in Occupation	...	...	...	...	...	31
Health Cases	...	...	...	...	...	21
After-Care	...	...	...	...	...	3
						<hr/> 493

Repairs to Houses.

Fewer houses have again been repaired and this is a trend which appears to become more established as the older houses are demolished.

However with the varied scope of work carried out in the Department, we are never short of the problems to which one can then devote more time.

**Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which
Defects were Remedied.**

	By Owner	By Local Authority
After informal action by Local Authority ...	129	—
After formal action under:		
(a) Public Health Act, 1936	53	11
(b) Housing Act, 1957	—	—

**Summary of Defects Remedied, Improvements Effected and
Nuisances Abated under the Housing, Public Health
and O.U.D.C. Acts during the year 1962.**

Dwelling Houses:

Roof repairs	39
Chimney stacks repointed/repared	8
Dangerous chimneys rebuilt	6
Chimney pots provided	3
Crest tiles repointed/rebedded	1
Defective spoutings repaired or refixed	32
New spoutings provided	8
House brickwork repointed/repared	4
Dangerous brickwork of walls rebuilt	7
Walls damp-proofed	5
Plasterwork repaired or renewed	22
Firegrates repaired or new provided	2
Windows made to open	8
Sash cords provided to windows	11
Woodwork of windows repaired/renewed	15
Broken glazing renewed	1
Floors repaired	9
Staircases repaired	2
Woodwork of doors repaired	6
New doors provided	1
Verandahs repaired	4
Miscellaneous	4

Wash-houses, Water Closets, etc.:

Wash-house roofs repaired	5
Wash-house doors repaired/renewed	1
Wash-houses reconstructed	1
Spoutings repaired or new provided	2
Water closet brickwork repointed/repared	3
Water closet roofs repaired	4
Water closets reconstructed	1
New pedestals provided	5
Water closet seats renewed	3
Flushing cisterns repaired or new provided	8
Leaking water closet joints repaired	1

Drainage and Water Supply:

Obstructed drains cleared	140
Drains relayed or repaired	4
Inspection chambers repaired and/or new covers provided	3
Burst pipes repaired	5

Other Nuisance:

Offensive accumulations removed	1
Canals and water courses cleansed	1

It is perhaps worth drawing attention here to the fact that a valuable service is provided by the Department whereby one of our workmen cleanses obstructed drains on complaint. How effective his work is can be gauged from the fact that for every four complaints received it is usually only necessary to serve one notice. Just as important from the owner's point of view is the saving in time and money that this means. It is no exaggeration to say that several hundreds of pounds are saved by owners each year as a result of this service.

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of applications for Certificates	1
Number of decisions not to issue Certificates	Nil
Number of decisions to issue Certificates:	
(a) for some defects specified by applicants	Nil
(b) for all defects specified by applicants	1
Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority	Nil
Number of undertakings given by landlords	Nil
Number of Certificates issued	1
Number of applications by landlords for cancellation of Certificates	1
Number of objections by tenants to cancellations of Certificates	Nil
Decisions by Local Authority to cancel despite tenants' objections	Nil
Number of Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	1

Slum Clearance.

104 individual unfit houses were represented as unfit, for ultimate demolition (including 2 houses owned by the Council) and 11 houses for closing during the year, making a total of 115 houses in all.

This total exceeded last year's figure of 79 houses but was still below our normal figure owing to staff problems.

The following table summarises action taken during the year 1962. The figures in parenthesis give the total figures since the start of the programme late in 1955 up to the end of 1962:—

Clearance Areas.

Number of Clearance Areas declared	—	(17)
Number of unfit houses included in such areas ...	—	(186)
Number of unfit houses demolished	—	(186)
Number of other houses demolished ("grey" properties)	—	(3)
Number of persons displaced from unfit and other house ("grey" properties)	—	(623)

Individual Unfit Houses or Parts of Buildings.

(a) For Demolition:

Number of houses represented as unfit	104	(460)
Number of unfit houses demolished	169	(378)
Number of persons displaced from unfit houses ...	444	(1,370)

(b) (i) For Closing (Whole Houses):

Number of houses represented as unfit	11	(60)
Number of unfit houses closed	11	(56)
Number of persons displaced from houses closed	38	(234)

(ii) For Closing (Part of a Building):

Number of parts of buildings represented as unfit	—	(1)
Number of parts of buildings closed	—	(1)
Number of persons displaced from such buildings	—	(5)

It will be seen from the above table that a total of 707 unfit properties have now been dealt with since the present programme was commenced and 2,232 persons have been displaced in the same period. In the period 564 unfit houses have been demolished and 57 unfit houses or parts of buildings have been closed.

We are now well past the half-way stage in the attack on the slum clearance problem and there now remain 528 unfit houses to deal with in the current programme.

Of course this programme is being constantly amended as and when houses are discovered that, in the original rapid survey, were either borderline cases or which were not at that time thought to be sufficiently bad to be included. Nevertheless it is good to be able to think that at least we have "turned the corner." The only regret now is that improvement grants are not being taken up in sufficiently large numbers to arrest the decline of other houses which ultimately will fall into decay and themselves become slum houses.

Whilst writing on this subject of slum clearance I must comment upon what appears to me the apparent inconsistency of the provision of bathrooms in houses in multiple occupation, powers to secure which are contained in the Housing Act, 1961. Is it not strange that a Local Authority is empowered to require this kind of accommodation in these houses, which are usually considered to provide a lower standard of accommodation than the more normal type of house occupied by one family, whereas no power exists as yet to compel the provision of this essential amenity in the latter type of house.

The day cannot be now far distant when such a power, with others, must be given to local authorities retaining of course the present grant provisions to go hand-in-hand with any new improved standards. Surely, too, in these times, when we constantly read of some new invention or other achievement that leaves us rather bemused by its startling implications, the day of the kettle as a means of obtaining hot water is past.

Perhaps it is that these amenities are by their very nature so mundane that they lack the glamour of more striking achievements, but I would hazard an opinion that people living in sub-standard houses would willingly forego the excitements of a trip to the moon for unlimited quantities of hot water in their own bathroom to mention but two necessities only.

During the year some difficulty was experienced in getting demolition contractors to undertake the necessary work of demolishing these unfit houses but towards the end of the year the difficulty was resolved. The number of houses demolished this year was a record since the programme started.

Overcrowding.

4 cases of overcrowding investigated by my Department (involving 22 persons) were relieved during 1961.

Improvement Grants.

The importance of this work has now been emphasised by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in his circular to local authorities of August, 1962.

In this circular local authorities were requested to select streets or areas most worthy of improving and to make a large scale attempt to improve all suitable houses in a given area, even to the extent of using compulsory purchase powers where persuasion fails.

The wisdom of this is beyond doubt and I need not repeat what I have said perviously on this. Unfortunately this announcement coincided with the departure of two Inspectors.

Nevertheless a steady flow of applications was received during the year and a corresponding number of houses improved, resulting in the actual payment of £7,219 by way of grant.

		Standard	Discretionary
1.	Number of applications received ...	60	1
2.	Number of applications approved ...	57	Nil
3.	Number of applications refused ...	3	1
4.	Number of applications not proceeded with by applicants ...	1 (incl. in 2 above)	Nil
5.	Number completed during the year ...	64	Nil
6.	Total cost of works/amenities ...	£19,285	—
7.	Total amount of grant actually paid during the year ...	£7,219	—

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND CONSERVANCY.

The number of premises not connected to a public sewer fell by one during the year and there are now only 13 such premises.

The remarks in the second paragraph of my Report for 1960 under this heading are still applicable.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply to the whole of the Borough of Oldbury is provided by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and was satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year.

The Engineer-in-Chief of the Waterworks Company informs me that the supply to the Borough of Oldbury is now derived from 18 pumping stations situated outside the boundaries of the Authority.

1,075 samples of chlorinated water were examined and of these 1,056 were free from coliform bacteria. Samples of the raw water are not available at two of the pumping stations, but of the remainder 701 samples were examined of which 679 were free from coliform bacteria. 204 samples of a supply of surface origin were also examined prior to treatment and these gave an average coliform bacteria content of 43 per 100 ml. 12 consumer samples taken from Oldbury were free from coliform bacteria. In all appropriate cases "follow-up" samples were found to be satisfactory.

31 chemical and bacteriological samples taken by Inspectors of the Department from premises in the Borough have produced satisfactory results in each instance.

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvency, all samples being free from any appreciable quantities of lead.

A piped supply of water is supplied directly to 16,040 dwellings and approximately 54,420 persons, 312 dwellings and 1,092 persons being supplied by taps not actually inside the house (e.g. by taps in external wash-houses).

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

(a) Licences under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations continued in force in respect of the following numbers of premises and will remain valid for another four years:—

1. Dealers (Pasteurising Plant)	...	...	...	1
2. Dealers				
(a) Pasteurised	...	...	...	16
(b) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	8
(c) Sterilised	...	...	...	89

- (b) The number of registered milk distributors retailing milk in the Borough during the year was 84.

The following samples of milk and cream were taken for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis:—

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
(a) Milk from the sole pasteurising plant in the Borough—		
(i) for bacteriological examination	42	—
(ii) for chemical analysis ...	40	—
(b) Cream from a dairy in the Borough carrying out its own separation—		
(i) for bacteriological examination	13	3
(ii) for chemical analysis ...	12	—
(c) Designated milk taken which originated outside the Borough—		
(i) for bacteriological examination	15	—
(ii) for chemical analysis ...	12	—
Number of samples of washed milk bottles	72	5

The standard of milk and cream sold in the Borough was very good for 1962, there being three unsatisfactory cream samples only.

Following the first unsatisfactory cream result, an inspection of the premises where the cream is separated was made and further samples of cream taken at various stages of treatment. The results obtained, including the further two poor results, provided invaluable information and a revision of the pipelines resulted in all further samples being to a satisfactory standard.

Regular samples of washed milk bottles are taken from the sole dairy in the Borough and of 72 samples taken, 5 were unsatisfactory. As a result of representations made to the management of the dairy the washing machine was stripped down and revised instructions were given in respect of the maintenance of sterilant strength. This effected the desired results and a series of further samples were all satisfactory.

Meat and Foods Inspection.

It is very gratifying to report that during the year only one case of tuberculosis in cattle occurred and this was of a minor character only.

The 5 cases of tuberculosis in pigs were also well below last year's figure of 27 and it now seems that we shall soon arrive at the happy position when this disease in food animals will indeed become a rarity.

As far as diseases other than tuberculosis are concerned the figures shown compare reasonably with last year although of course when one considers that these figures include such conditions as pleurisy and parasitic infection a general fluctuation can be expected from year to year.

Meat and Other Foods Condemnation for the year 1962.

						Weight			
						T.	C.	Q.	Lbs. Ozs.
Carcase Meat and Offal (from sole private slaughterhouse)						10	1	11	5

Other Foodstuffs:

No. of tins pkts., etc.						Weight			
						T.	C.	Q.	Lbs. Ozs.
343	Fruit	...	...	...	...	3	2	20	15
496	Vegetables	...	...	...	...	3	3	6	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
116	Meat	...	...	...	...	2	1	11	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
90	Stews and Soups	...	...	...	...			2	12 13
45	Fish	...	...	...	...			1	0 5 $\frac{1}{4}$
43	Milk	...	...	...	...			1	21 8
1	Cordials	...	...	...	...				1 4
	Cheese	...	...	...	...			1	4 6
2	Cream	...	...	...	...				10
21	Puddings	...	...	...	...				17 13
1	Fruit Juices	...	...	...	...				1 3
5	Sauces	...	...	...	...				1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
1	Honey	...	...	...	...				8
27	Ham	...	...	...	...	2	2	15	9
47	Jams and Marmalades	...	...	...	...			2	0 10
4	Meat/Fish Pastes	...	...	...	...				5 $\frac{1}{2}$
14	Cereals	...	...	...	...				17 2
6	Pickles	...	...	...	...				3 10
	Sheeps Hearts	...	...	...	...				19 0
6	Coffee	...	...	...	...				1 4
3	Beverages	...	...	...	...				1 4
						<hr/>			
						15	0	19	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Plus slaughterhouse condemnations						10	1	11	5
						<hr/>			
						1	5	2	3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
						<hr/>			

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part.

	Cattle excluding			Sheep and			
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Totals	
Number killed	234	3	17	630	737	1,621	
Number inspected	234	3	17	630	737	1,621	
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis							
(1) Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—		
(2) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	67	—	—	56	80		
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticercosis	29	—	—	8.8	10.8		
Tuberculosis only							
(1) Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—		
(2) Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	1	—	—	5		
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	33½	—	—	0.67		
Cysticercosis							
(1) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—		
(2) Carcasses submitted for treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—		
(3) Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—		

Meat Inspection, 1962.**Reasons for Condemnation:****(1) Cattle (including calves)**

Disease	Carcases	Head and Tongue	Lungs	Hearts	Liver	Mesen- Spleen teries
Tuberculosis	—	1	—	—	—	—
Abscesses	—	1	—	—	6	—
Fascioliasis	—	—	—	—	33	—
Hydatid Cysts	—	—	3	—	4	—
Telangiectasas	—	—	—	—	2	—
Actinobacillosis	—	2	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia & Pleurisy	—	—	2	—	—	—
Congestion	—	—	4	—	2	—
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	4	3
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	4	—
	—	4	9	—	55	3

(2) Sheep

Disease	Lungs	Liver	Hearts
Pneumonia and Congestion	25	—	—
Parasitic Infection	28	21	—
Pericarditis	—	—	5
Abscesses	1	4	—
Pleurisy	6	—	—
	60	25	5

(3) Pigs							
Disease			Heads	Lungs	Liver	Hearts	Kidneys
Tuberculosis	...	...	5	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Congestion and Pleurisy	...	...	—	61	—	—	—
Pericarditis	...	...	—	—	—	20	—
Parasitic Infection	...	...	—	—	20	—	—
Peritonitis	...	...	—	—	4	—	—
Hydronephrosis	...	...	—	—	—	—	1
Abscesses	...	...	4	—	2	—	—
Cirrhosis	...	...	—	—	3	—	—
			9	61	29	20	1

Food Premises.

The following food businesses were carried on during the year:—

Wholesale grocers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bakers and confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butchers (including sausage manufacturers)	...	...	...	...	...	52
Grocers (retail)	...	...	...	...	...	135
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	25
Catering establishments (excluding factory canteens)	...	...	...	...	...	16
Industrial canteens	...	...	...	...	...	29
Fish shops (fried)	...	...	...	...	...	14
Sweets, confectionery and ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	60
Fish and greengrocery	...	...	...	...	...	9
Wet fish retailers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	4
General	...	...	...	...	...	25
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	102
Food factories (2 confectionery, 1 vinegar, 1 malt flour)	...	...	...	...	...	4
						482

The following food premises were registered by the Council at the end of the year:—

(a) Under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

Sausage preparation	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ice cream manufacturing	...	...	...	...	...	3
Retail ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	110

(b) Under Milk and Dairies Regulations:

Dairies	1
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(c) Under Section 69, Oldbury Corporation Act, 1949:

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	8
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ice cream vendors	...	...	...	...	...	6

245 inspections of registered premises (including 82 re-visits) were carried out during the year.

The total figure of 372 visits to food premises shows a reduction on last year's figures which is not only due to a shortage of Inspectors but also to an increase in duties relating to infectious disease and smoke control areas.

Improvements Effected to Food Premises.

The table below summarises the main improvements effected at food premises during the year:—

Premises cleansed and/or decorated	21
Premises repaired	4
Wash-basins provided	2
Sinks provided	4
Ventilation improved	1
Floor coverings provided	3
New counters provided and other repaired	7
Outside displays raised	4
Water closets cleansed and/or repaired	8
Clean hands notices provided	2
Sterilising sinks or other facilities provided	2
Miscellaneous	3

150 bacteriological swabs of utensils and equipment in food preparing premises were taken of which 66 per cent. were not up to the desired standard.

Swabs of various types of implements and cooking utensils are taken as routine and it is found that the poor results sometimes obtained highlight inefficient washing-up techniques.

In all the cases reported above improvements were obtained as a result of interviews with the various proprietors and follow-up swabs showed good results.

Food Vehicles.

One food vehicle was registered during the year under the Oldbury Corporation Act, 1949, to bring the total of registered food hawkers in the district to 19.

Ice Cream and Lollies.

Only two small manufacturers of ice cream actually produced ice cream in the Borough during the year, both by the complete cold mix method. 7 samples taken from these premises were bacteriologically and chemically satisfactory. 20 samples of ice cream produced outside the Borough were also satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Sampling.

163 samples of foods and drugs were taken during the year and of these 8 proved unsatisfactory.

Details are given below:—

Sample	Nature	Adulteration	Action Taken
1 (informal)	Luncheon Meat	Meat content below recommended minimum	Formal sample genuine
1 (informal)	Chopped Chicken	ditto	ditto
1 (informal) 1 (formal)	Luncheon Meat	ditto	Formal sample taken. Meat content 3% below recommended minimum – warning letter sent
1 (informal)	Apple Flakes	Analyst reported that contents represented 10 or 11 ozs. of fresh apples and not 1 lb. as stated on packet	Matter was already being taken up with manufacturers by County Council
1 (informal)	Steak & Kidney Pudding	Meat content below recommended minimum	Further samples to be taken
1 (informal)	Luncheon Meat	ditto	Formal sample genuine
1 (informal)	Luncheon Meat	ditto	Formal sample 2% below recommended minimum of 80%. Warning letter sent.

The total number of samples taken for chemical analysis was:

Articles Supplied	No. of Samples	Articles Supplied	No. of Samples
Almond Essence	2	Lentils	1
Apple Flakes	1	Margarine	2
Baby Food	3	Meat, canned	11
Baking Powder	1	Meat Puddings	6
Beef Croquettes	1	Milk	52
Beef Curry	1	Milk, evaporated	2
Cake Mixture	10	Mushrooms, creamed	1
Christmas Pudding	1	Pepper	2
Chicken, minced/chopped	4	Pills	1
Cinnamon	1	Prunes	1
Cloves	1	Sandwich Spread	3
Coffee	2	Sardines	1
Cooking Oil	1	Sauce	2
Cough Syrup	2	Sausage	9
Cream	14	Soup	3
Custard Powder	1	Spice, mixed	1
Flour	1	Stuffing	1
Gelatine	1	Suet	1
Gravy Browning	2	Sweets	2
Hamburgers	3	Trifle	1
Ice Cream	4	Tuna Fish	1
Jam	2		

Unsound or Unsatisfactory Food.

The following eight cases of unsound or unsatisfactory food were reported or discovered during the year and in two cases where prosecutions were taken fines of £5 and £50 were imposed.

Nature of Contamination/Unsoundness				Action Taken
1.	Mould on cheese	...	...	Firm given warning.
2.	Beetle in bread	...	...	Firm prosecuted—fined £5.
3.	Black marks on sausage casing	...	...	Firm given warning.
4.	Foreign object in a tea scone	...	...	Firm given warning.
5.	Mould on cream filling in a chocolate slice	...	...	Firm given warning.
6.	Flour beetle larvae in biscuits	...	...	Firm given warning.
7.	Beetle in flour	...	...	Firm given warning.
8.	Pieces of wood in bread	...	...	Firm prosecuted—fined £50.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

I give below the usual statistics relating to this subject.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	223	39	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	10	—	—	—
	<hr/> 239 <hr/>	<hr/> 39 <hr/>	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	<hr/> — <hr/>

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

<i>Particulars</i>		<i>Found Remedied</i>		<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector By H.M. Inspector</i>		<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7).						
Unsuitable or defective	...	1	1	—	1	—
		<hr/> 1 <hr/>	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	<hr/> — <hr/>	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	<hr/> — <hr/>

OUTWORK.

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>No. of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel (making) ...	6	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
	<hr/> 7 <hr/>	<hr/> — <hr/>	<hr/> — <hr/>	<hr/> — <hr/>	<hr/> — <hr/>	<hr/> — <hr/>

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

No nuisance was observed at the two offensive trade premises in the Borough during the year.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT.

The number of slaughtermen's licences issued during the year was 7.

AIR POLLUTION.**Industrial Premises.**

There are no exemption certificates outstanding under Section 2 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, the last certificate expiring in November after the firm concerned had completed its full modernisation programme.

Improvements in Industrial Pollution.

Engineering works	Dark smoke from boiler plant	Mechanical stoker overhauled and adjusted
Sweet factory	Dark smoke from vertical boiler	After consultation with the National Coal Board a more suitable coal was selected and experiments made with overfire air jets
Chemical works	Excessive emissions of phosphorus pentoxide	Extractor ducting and valves overhauled
Chemical works	Dark smoke from boiler plant	Automatic controls and instrument lines overhauled
Tarmac works	Excessive dust emissions	New cyclone dust extractor fitted and arrangements made to re-site stockpiles of crushed slag to minimise nuisance
Tube works	Dark smoke from boiler plant	Boiler taken out of commission and stoker overhauled

Domestic Smoke.

1962 saw the coming into operation of the Council's first smoke control area at Brandhall, which comprised three schools and 979 municipal dwellings.

The operative date was fixed at 1st June, 1962, and with few exceptions the works of conversion to grates were completed before that date. Very few contraventions have been observed and in fact it has been necessary to report 3 cases only, and in each case a written warning produced the necessary results.

The Council's second area, the Oldbury No. 2 (Cakemore) Smoke Control Area comprising 775 dwellings, two schools and 11 other buildings has been confirmed this year and comes into operation on the 1st September, 1963.

Measurement of Pollution.

The figures for 1962 for grit and dust emission, sulphur dioxide and smoke, are given in the following tables:—

Deposit Gauges (deposited matter in tons/sq. mile).

Month	Albright School	Perryfields Schools	"Edale" Wolverhampton Road	100 Wallace Road
January	41.10	9.77	80.71	79.36
February	28.12	5.90	—	26.76
March	28.33	13.01	30.51	31.79
April	22.58	9.87	32.10	54.31
May	31.58	13.58	42.15	80.46
June	16.16	4.50	24.91	40.36
July	16.60	7.07	33.96	38.81
August	35.04	7.91	592.15	33.90
September	27.72	5.80	314.16	44.55
October	21.66	7.00	80.40	36.41
November	13.08	—	24.78	17.74
December	12.46	—	31.06	41.75
Totals	294.43	84.41	1,286.89	526.20
Averages	24.53	8.44	116.99	43.85

Lead Peroxide Instruments. (Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected in mg/100 cm².)

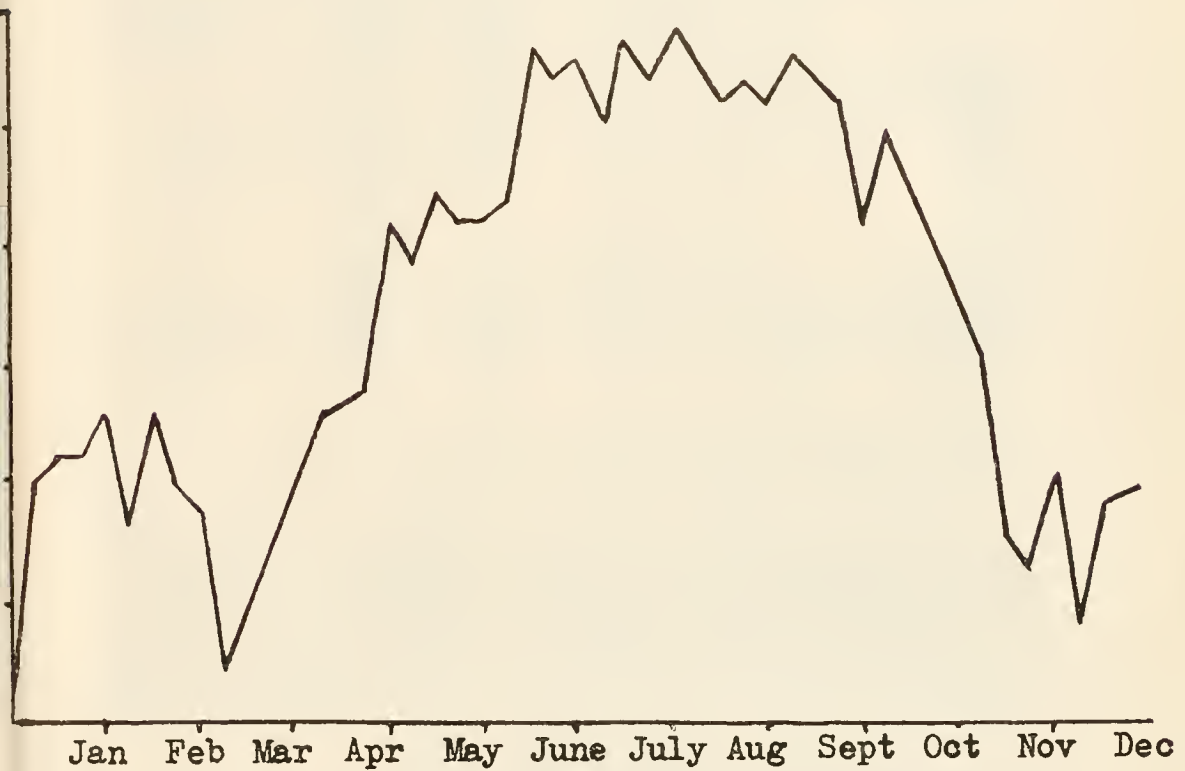
Month	Broadwell Park	Albright School	Langley Park	Perryfields Schools
January	2.98	2.82	2.94	2.58
February	2.86	3.48	2.62	2.87
March	2.91	3.05	2.45	3.04
April	—	3.02	1.80	2.20
May	—	3.02	1.43	1.66
June	—	2.74	0.94	1.16
July	—	2.82	0.82	1.22
August	—	2.08	0.69	0.86
September	—	2.18	1.06	1.56
October	—	2.62	1.76	2.60
November	—	3.91	2.29	3.63
December	—	3.04	2.53	3.72
Totals	8.75	34.78	21.33	27.10
Averages	2.91	2.90	1.77	2.26

TWO GRAPHS SHOWING THE CORRELATION BETWEEN

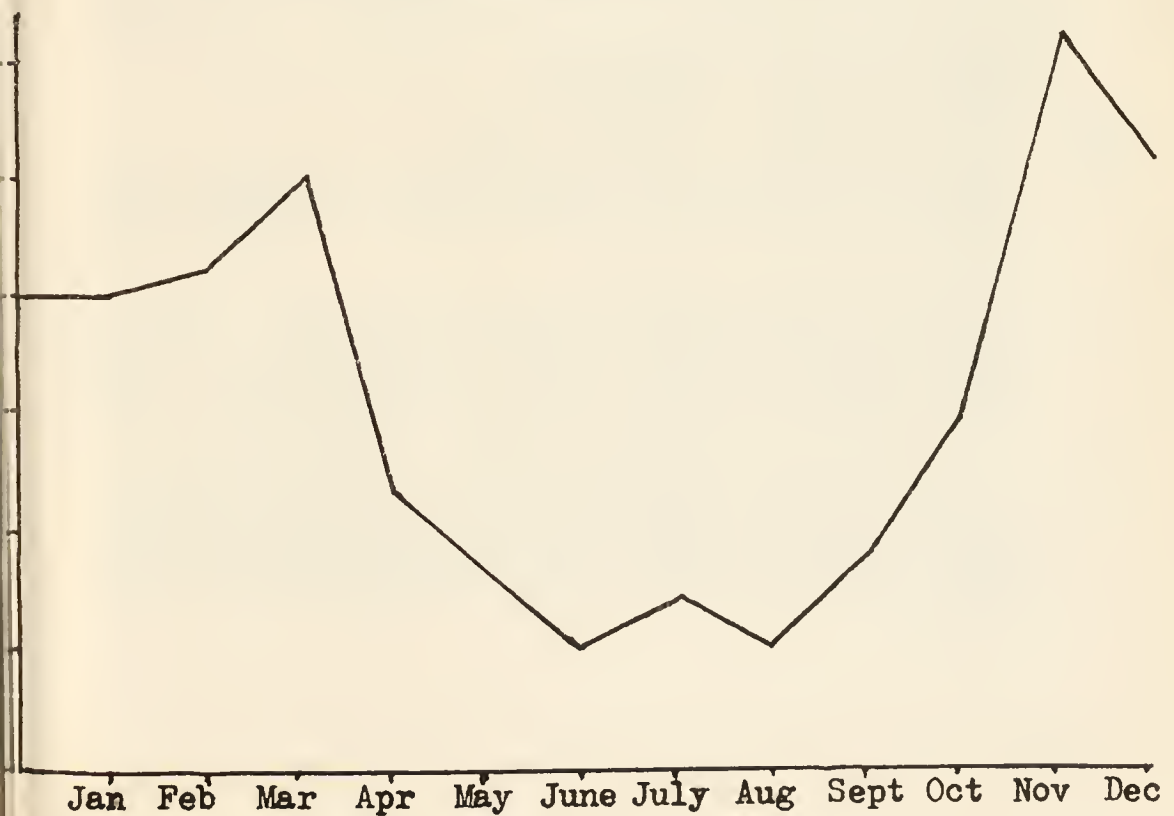
(a) TEMPERATURE and (b) SMOKE,

BASED ON AVERAGE FIGURES.

TEMPERATURE — °F.



SMOKE — MICROGRAMMES PER Cu. METRE.



Daily Volumetric Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide Apparatus.

(Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide expressed in microgrammes per cu.m.)

Month	Smoke		Sulphur Dioxide		Smoke/Sulphur Dioxide Ratio
	Aver- age	Highest Day	Aver- age	Highest Day	
January	... 202	1,011	115	570	1.76
February	... 209	535	164	347	1.27
March	... 257	594	252	537	1.02
April	... 118	254	160	398	.74
May	... 90	197	154	371	.58
June	... 49	101	115	267	.42
July	... 69	144	93	185	.74
August	... 50	95	72	160	.69
September	... 87	194	141	304	.62
October	... 155	500	182	426	.85
November	... 312	728	158	329	1.98
December	... 265	720	172	523	1.54
Averages	155	423	148	368	1.02

The lead peroxide instrument in Broadwell Park was removed after it was found that it had been interfered with and damaged and no readings from this instrument are available after March.

There have been fluctuations in figures compared with last year's readings but not sufficient to be significant when one considers that a certain amount of the fluctuation must be accounted for by wind direction and humidity.

The particularly high readings at the deposit gauge at "Edale," Wolverhampton Road, were investigated and were thought to be due to conditions at a nearby tarmac manufacturing plant. The management, had, in fact, been aware of a defect to a cyclone dust extractor and a new cyclone was delivered and fitted in a very short time. In addition to this defect it was thought that the siting of the various stock-piles of crushed slag could also be contributing to the heavy deposits at "Edale" and the management agreed to re-site the stock piles as soon as practicable — no further trouble has been experienced.

I have included in my report two graphs showing the correlation between temperature and smoke based on average figures recorded and this shows the reduction of smoke as temperature rises.

In the table showing the recordings from the daily volumetric smoke and sulphur dioxide apparatus I have given a smoke/sulphur dioxide ratio and it does appear significant that in the winter months the recorded smoke is higher than the sulphur dioxide and in the summer this order is reversed.

This reduction in smoke is shown in the tables and on the graphs and could be attributed to the closing down of the domestic fires in the area, especially when one takes into account the fact that the non-domestic space heating plant is normally operated smokelessly.

It is also interesting to note that during July and August there is a drop in recorded sulphur dioxide and it is significant that these are the months when factories close down or decrease production for holidays and road transport in towns is lighter.

Note—For the purpose of my remarks above October is included as Summer due to the comparatively high temperatures recorded for the first three weeks which showed average temperatures some 3.3°F. above normal with as high a reading as 65°F.

NOISE ABATEMENT.

During the year several complaints have been received of nuisances from noise and the subject of the complaints has varied from excessive noise from dance bands to noise from industrial premises.

In each case a thorough investigation has been made by Inspectors who have, in some cases, been required to visit and maintain a watch at premises late at night or during the early hours of the morning.

Where noise nuisances were confirmed informal action has resulted in improvements satisfactory to the Council although it should be appreciated that it is often very difficult indeed, if not impossible, to effect a complete elimination of noise, if indeed such a state is desirable.

RODENT CONTROL.

There is no item of particular significance to report under this heading. The work continued throughout the year quite normally and infestations by rats or mice were, generally speaking, of a minor nature only.

Prevention of Damage by Pests' Act, 1949.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				Agri- cultural (5)
Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (incl. Council Houses) (2)	All Other (incl. Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3) (4)		
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's district	41	15,882	1,350	17,273	1
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	17	250	70	337	1
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat—Major	—	—	1	1	—
Minor	5	162	33	200	1
Ship Rat—Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse—Major	—	—	1	1	—
Minor	7	31	23	61	—

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—(cont.)

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Agricultural
	Local Authority	Non-Agricultural Dwelling Houses (incl. Council Houses)	All other (incl. Business Premises)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) and (3)	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	—	42	3	45	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat—Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	—	36	2	38	—
Ship Rat—Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse—Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	—	1	—	1	—
4. Total number of <i>properties otherwise inspected</i> (e.g. when visited for some other purpose)	10	878	475	1,363	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat—Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	2	5	3	10	—
Ship Rat—Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse—Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	—	33	6	39	—
5. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections ...	37	1,951	625	2,613	3
6. Number of <i>infested properties</i> (in Sections II, III & IV) treated by the Local Authority	17	250	70	337	1
7. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments ...	17	263	74	354	1
8. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Works (e.g. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
10. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
11. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

CANAL BOATS.

There were no new registrations during 1962 and twenty-two canal boats remained registered. No problems arose from the administration of the Public Health Acts and Canal Boat Regulations.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Ten houses (including seven municipal dwellings) were treated for infestations during the year.

This shows a considerable drop of approximately two-thirds against last year's figures and there does appear to be a regular reduction in this type of infestation, probably due to the efficiency of modern insecticides allowing householders to carry out successful treatments of early infestations themselves.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

Eighteen samples of water taken from the two pools at the Vicarage Road swimming baths were all found to be satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

The three pet shops in the district were inspected and found to be satisfactory and licences were issued for 1962.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

Circular 1/63 of the Ministry of Health asks for information about the inspection of registered common lodging-houses but there are no such premises in the Borough.

STAFF.

Once again several changes of staff occurred in the Department during the year.

Two Public Health Inspectors, Messrs. R. A. Maddock and A. G. Sabin, left for higher paid posts elsewhere on the 4th May and 31st August respectively. For a similar reason Miss E. Hackett, Junior Shorthand Typist, left on the 23rd September and was succeeded by Miss V. Wallace, who commenced work on the 22nd October.

No less than 20 advertisements were inserted in the appropriate technical journals in an endeavour to obtain replacements for the two Inspectors and, after a period of several months, the vain attempt was given up. Only three candidates applied for the two posts — one was insufficiently qualified and two refused the appointments offered to them.

There are therefore now two unfilled vacancies for Inspectors in the Department. No doubt the impending re-organisation of Local Government in the area had something to do with the difficulty in filling these vacancies. This shortage of staff however, amounting to no less than 25 per cent. of the total establishment of Inspectors in the Department, is now having its effect and it is becoming increasingly difficult to cope with the existing day-to-day duties.

Bearing in mind the provisions of the anticipated Offices Bill which will probably be placed on the Statute Book in the near future and the increasing importance of other time-consuming work, the position cannot be far away when some serious hold-up in the work of the Department will occur.

One hears from time to time that no shortage of Inspectors exists in the country but at least as far as Oldbury is concerned this is obviously quite incorrect.

CONCLUSION.

Finally I record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and my colleagues in other Departments for their help in the many problems that confronted the Department during the year.

To the staff of my own Department I also express my sincere thanks for their work during the year. The atmosphere in the Department has always been a happy one and it says volumes for the staff when I record that in circumstances that are often trying, to say the least, everyone continues to remain cheerful and helpful at all times.

I am,

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. J. MASON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Buildings, Oldbury.

May, 1963.

NOTE—As in the case last year, a separate Annual Report will be published later on the Public Cleansing Service, for which I am also responsible, and this will follow when the necessary statistical information is available.